

**VERMONT PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL - DRAFT
JULY 24, 2013 MEETING MINUES**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gary, Lené
Giguere, Cary
Hoffman-Contois, Razelle (Chair)
Levey, Rick
Palmer, Eric
Shively, Andy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bosworth, Sid
Decker, Kathy

GUESTS

William Irwin
Jud Kratzer
Sylvia Knight
Alan Graham
Wally Terrill
Jeff Hottenstein
Tim Schmalz

Meeting Called to Order

1:05 pm EDT

Meeting Adjourned

4:20 pm EDT

Announcements and General Business

- Minutes of the May 22, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved and will be posted to the ftp site
- Work continues on the ftp site. Documents for posting or requests for removal of posted materials should be submitted to Razelle. Rick will research to see if we can establish a single point administrator and report back.
- It was agreed that materials for Council consideration must be provided to the Chair for distribution a minimum of 7 business days prior to the meeting where they are to be discussed.
- Cary and Razelle provided an overview of a potential pesticide misuse case in Rutland County, Vermont. Interagency investigation of alleged indoor application of products containing the active ingredient chlorpyrifos (an organophosphate) has been underway for several weeks. EPA phased out indoor use of such products with a termination date of 12/31/05.

Public Comments

Sylvia Knight provided the Council with a status report on the discussions underway regarding herbicide use at the Charlotte Substation. Ms. Knight described the effort to identify appropriate parameters for inclusion in a baseline assessment and the annual report. The Chair offered, and the Council agreed, that Alan Quakenbush, state wetland coordinator, could be invited to a future meeting to provide a status report. Ms. Knight also offered comments on the regulatory challenges posed by endocrine disrupting chemicals and the importance of considering such effects. Two handouts were provided. These will be posted to the ftp site.

Business

(1) Proposed Use of Rotenone in Round Pond Fish Reclamation – Jud Kratzer, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (VTFW)
Jud Kratzer presented a proposal by VTFW to use rotenone, a piscicide, to kill off existing fish stocks in Round Pond and restock with Brook trout and Northern redbelly dace. The Council had many questions regarding this proposed project. Concerns expressed included but were not limited to: policy implications, potential human health impacts, and potential impact to aquatic organisms other than fish, the success rate of any such historic efforts and availability and efficacy of any non-chemical means of control. It was recommended that an interagency workgroup be formed to consider this proposal if VTFW decides to move forward and apply an Aquatic Nuisance Control permit for such use. Several Council members volunteered to be on a workgroup. Mr. Kratzer also expressed the potential need to use this compound in a rapid response situation to address an invasive species (e.g., snakehead).

(2) 2013 Mosquito Surveillance – Alan Graham, state entomologist, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFMM)
Alan Graham presented an overview of the state's mosquito surveillance effort. Trapping began on 6/17/13. To date, 110 pool samples have been tested with 50 more incoming. Abundant rain has triggered higher populations of mosquitos than usual. The melanura species overwintered successfully; they emerge June-August. New staff includes 2 field technicians who identify species and a field coordinator who will assist with mosquito population monitoring efforts across the state. The first pool testing positive for WNV was on 7/10/13 (vs. 7/4/12).

(3) Natular larvicide products with active ingredient spinosad - Clarke®
Clarke® representatives Wally Terrill and Jeff Hottenstein presented the Council with information on the larvicide products Natular G and G30 (extended release granule). The difference in delivery between these and b.t., products was described. Many other mosquito control challenges were discussed including but not limited to: how to address the difficult to reach larvae of C. melanura (known to transmit Eastern Equine Encephalitis) and efficacy of Natular vs. b.t. products. Clarke® will forward technical questions raised by the Council to their colleague Karen Larson for attention. The Council had several questions regarding efficacy of the Anvil vs. Duet adulticide products. Clarke® noted they would forward any relevant studies or information to the Council for consideration.

Mort Pierpont of the Brandon-Leicester-Salisbury-Goshen (BLSG) Insect Control District described current challenges in managing mosquito populations in this region. He requested that the Council recommend to the Secretary of VAAFMM that the Natular products, Natular G and NatularG30 be added to the 2013 larvicide permit with the hope that increased larval control could lead to decreased adult populations and decreased public pressure for use of adulticides. The District funds the adulticide program, the state funds the larvicide program. To date, 2013 adulticide use far surpasses that used during the entire 2012 season (estimates of 95 gallons of product to date vs. ~ 5 gallons in 2012). Mort described many control

challenges including rising water table, reclaimed wetlands, vegetation barriers to effective larvicide dispersal, location of roads in relation to wetlands and public concerns that range the spectrum from complaints that there should be increased adulticiding to less. BLSG is currently using malathion and a pyrethroid-based insecticide to fog for adult control. Anvil 10+10 left from the 2012 aerial application will also be used. The Council was asked to review and consider recommending to the Secretary that a coconut oil based product be added to the list of permitted larvicides to replace the soon to be discontinued Agnique[®]. Materials will be provided to the Council for consideration.

A brief review of the Fern Lake fish kill was offered through a discussion between Rick, Cary, Mort, and Eric. To date, there has been no determination as to what exactly caused this event.

The council voted to postpone developing a recommendation regarding use of Natular G and/or G30 (a.i. spinosad) to allow time for Clarke[®] to address technical question that have been raised and provide additional information for review and consideration. A Council conference call to discuss the status was set for July 29, 2013. Any resulting recommendations will be posted to the ftp site.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 26, 2013 in Montpelier - National Life Building Ottauquechee Room M205.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm EDT.